

WASHINGTON BOROUGH GIRLS' SOFTBALL

Non-Refundable Registration Fee per participant: 3rd - 8th grade \$60*, K - 2nd grade \$35*

Make checks payable to Borough of Washington - 100 Belvidere Avenue, Washington, NJ 07882

Registration period open until Feb 17, 2016

Enrollment may be limited at the Recreation Department's discretion

PLAYER AND FAMILY INFORMATION: - PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Player's Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Age _____ Grade _____
Home Address _____

**** Uniform Size: Youth S M L or Adult S M L XL ****

Parent or Guardian Name(s) _____ Email address: _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

EMERGENCY CONTACTS: (Parent/Guardians are called first)

1. _____ PHONE # _____

2. _____ PHONE # _____

LIST ANY ALLERGIES, MEDICAL CONDITIONS OR OTHER CONDITIONS THE COACH SHOULD BE AWARE OF:

*******VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED !!*******

I am willing to (circle one) coach assistant coach team parent umpire

Circle level of NYSCA or Rutgers certification held and indicate in which sport(s) certification is held:

LEVEL 0 1 2 3 Lifetime Sport(s) _____

PARENTAL STATEMENT: I/We, the parent/guardian(s) assume all risks and hazards incidental to such participation arising out of any and all activities whether the result of negligence or any other cause except to the extent and in the amount covered by excess accident and/or liability insurance held by the local league. We do hereby waive, release, absolve, indemnify and agree to hold harmless the members of the Washington Boro Recreation Department, Committee, coaches, organizers, sponsors, participants and persons transporting us and/or our child to and from sponsored activities. **I/We agree to return the uniform and any equipment issued to us and/or our child in as good conditions as issued, except for normal wear and tear or agree to pay replacement costs before we and/or our child will be eligible for future participation in Boro sponsored activities.**

MY CHILD AND I HAVE READ AND OUR FAMILY AGREES TO ABIDE BY THE WASHINGTON BOROUGH CODE OF CONDUCT

PARENT/GUARDIAN/PARTICIPANT PERMISSION: If I, or the emergency contacts can not be reached by phone I DO give my permission for the coaches to call a doctor, send to the hospital or doctor's office in case of an emergency.

X _____
PARENT/GUARDIAN signature _____ **date** _____

* Fees Apply for all Borough Administered Programs up to and including the 2nd child (50% for 3rd child and no fee for 4th child and beyond)

Please note: For any uniform not returned there is a \$50 charge. Child will be ineligible for any Borough sports programs until uniform is returned or fee is paid.

**Washington Borough Recreation Department, 100 Belvidere Avenue, Washington, NJ 07882
(908) 689-3600 ex 136, www.washingtonboro-nj.gov/recreation**

OFFICE USE ONLY: Fee paid \$ _____ Check # _____ Received by: _____ Date: _____

SOFTBALL INFORMATION SHEET FOR PLAYERS AND PARENTS – page 1

Welcome to the softball season! This information is helpful for parents and first-time softball players as well as returning athletes.

Washington Borough's recreational softball teams participate in the Warren County Girls' Softball Association. Each team will participate in 10-12 regular season games, including a weekend tournament. The season includes playoffs for the top teams and an All Star game for players selected from each team. The League bylaws are based on American Softball Association rules. Washington Borough plays other towns' teams from all over Warren County. There are 4 levels of play: Pony K-2, Junior (Grades 3 & 4); Intermediate (Grades 5 & 6) and Senior (Grades 7 & 8).

FAQs

- **Who coaches my team?** Coaches are volunteers from the community. The coach will likely need some help from other parents. For example, a coach may not conduct practice without another adult present.
- **When does the season start?** Practices may begin any time, but with limited indoor space, most coaches wait until the weather breaks in March. The season begins around April 20th. Make sure your coach knows which games you will not be available to play at least one week before the season starts.
- **What days of the week will we practice and play?** Practice days are determined by the coaches. Weekday games require teams to be on the field by 5 or 5:30 for a 6PM game. Saturday games are played in the morning. Game days vary depending on the level: Juniors generally play Tuesday and Friday. Intermediates usually play Wednesday and Saturday. Seniors usually play Thursday and Saturday. The League schedules the games.
- **What equipment do I need and where can I get it?** Hair tie, helmet, glove, sliding pad and cleats for safety. Starting at the top,
YOUR HEAD ***No Earrings!***
 - Cap, sunglasses, hair bands or barrettes. It's very important to keep hair and sun out of your eyes...so you can SEE the ball! Many travel and high school players keep a roll of something called "prewrap" in their equipment bag. Comes in many bright colors and is great for tying hair back.
 - Helmet with face guard and chin strap. This is a rule. The team has helmets, but if you choose to purchase your own, you can find them at Modells or any sporting goods store, helmets are made by Rawlings, Nike, and other sports equipment manufacturers. If you already have a helmet, purchase a faceguard and chinstrap of the same brand to ensure it fits the helmet. Nike faceguards and chinstraps do not fit Rawlings helmets.
 - If you wear braces, consult your orthodontist about protective mouth gear.
 - If you wear eyeglasses, consult your optometrist to determine if they are appropriate to wear during sports.

YOUR HANDS

- **Glove:** Do not use a glove that is plastic. Use a leather glove that fits well, extends beyond the fingers a bit and is soft enough to squeeze shut. Don't buy a very stiff glove. There are plenty of gloves that are pre-conditioned. Most sporting goods stores have a good selection now.
- **Bat:** The team has bats. If you decide to purchase one, make sure it says "ASA" and that it says "Fastpitch" or "Softball" on it. It will be a metal bat. Length: resting one end on the ground, the bat should reach to the top of the leg, but this is really a preference. A little shorter is ok. The weight to length ratio should be -11. A 30" bat should not weigh more than 19 oz. A 29" bat should be 18 oz. The lighter the better in fast pitch. Easton makes good inexpensive bats.
- **Batting gloves:** good idea if your hands get sweaty or cold. Should fit tightly.

SOFTBALL INFORMATION SHEET FOR PLAYERS AND PARENTS – page 2

- Softball: Juniors play with an 11” softball. Intermediates and Seniors play with a 12” softball. This is just information.

YOUR LEGS

- Sliding is permitted in this league. Buy a “long” sliding pad to protect the knee. It should cover from the mid- thigh and to mid-calf when pulled up over the knee. It should be a little hard to pull up, and fit snugly enough to stay up over the knee. When you try it on, stomp your foot hard with the pad in place over your knee. If the pad slips, get the next size smaller. You will wear this throughout the game.

YOUR FEET

- Wear cleats. Do not practice or play in sneakers. Softball cleats are plastic, like soccer cleats, but with an extra toe cleat to dig in for batting and to grab the dirt base path. Soccer cleats are perfectly fine to use for softball, so if you’ve grown out of your soccer cleats, buy another pair of soccer cleats to save some \$\$, because you can’t use softball cleats for soccer. Buy cleats at Walmart, Modells, Sport Authority, etc.

Equipment: bottom line – supply your own glove, sliding pad and cleats. The team has everything else. Check with your doctors for teeth and eye protection. Bring sunglasses or a baseball cap and something to keep your hair out of your eyes.

- **Who can I call if I have more questions?** The Rec Committee liaison for Softball, as well as the League representative for Washington Borough.

**Enjoy the season!
Practice hard, play well!
Be on time for practices!
Go Boro Bears!**

Some Washington softball facts:

- *The pitching distance for 5th through 8th grade is 40 feet. The bases are 60 feet apart. Junior level of play has a pitching distance of 35 ft, with 50 ft baselines.*
- *There are two first bases in softball. One is for the first baseman’s use, the other is for the runner.*
- *Washington Borough stadium is the only softball stadium in Warren County. The dugouts used to have a doorway to locker rooms under the stadium. The field was home to a professional baseball team at one time, and players used to arrive by train.*
- *Washington Borough hosts the county-wide All Star game every year at the stadium. The senior girls play in the evening. One year the lights went out in the middle of the game. The game ended early and players’ trophy ceremony took place by car headlights!*

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

New Jersey law allows municipalities to establish sportsmanship and fair play codes of conduct for players, parents, and coaches. The Washington Borough Recreation Department has established the following code for parents.

I will show respect and good sportsmanship to all players, opposing players, coaches, referees and spectators. I will remind my child and members of my family not to be angry and critical towards players, coaches, referees or spectators and to show respect and good sportsmanship at all times. I understand that referees, players, and coaches try to do their best, but that they make mistakes just like I do.

I will follow the decisions of coaches and referees without criticizing them. I will not yell at, argue, spit, touch, shove, strike, kick, or threaten any coach, player, referee or spectator before, during, or after any game or practice. I will not strike or throw any object or take any other act of aggression if I am upset at a coach, player, referee or spectator. I will not try to deliberately hurt another person, or deliberately behave poorly, at any practice or game. I will not use foul language or make abusive remarks or gestures to players, coaches, referees, and spectators at games and practices.

I will not have in my possession any tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, knives, firearms or other weapons, or be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs, during any game or practice. I will not smoke or use any tobacco products at any game or practice. I pledge that my child is not using dietary supplements that could jeopardize his or her health.

By registering my child for the team, I have made a commitment for my child to attend practices and games and display good sportsmanship. I cannot expect my child to receive as much playing time as other players if I do not meet these commitments. I recognize that every child needs playing time and do not expect my child to play every minute of every game.

I understand that I can be immediately removed from a practice or game, and that I and/or my child can be expelled from the team for the remainder of the season, if I behave poorly or fail to follow any part of this pledge. I understand that failure to sign this document and the accompanying **PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT** will automatically preclude my child from participating in sporting activities sponsored by the Washington Borough Recreation Department.

Parent / Legal Guardian Name

Signature

Date

PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT

New Jersey law allows municipalities to establish sportsmanship and fair play codes of conduct for players, parents, and coaches. The Washington Borough Recreation Department has established the following code for players.

I am playing sports because it is healthy and fun. I will always try to help my team be successful, but I also understand that losing can teach me valuable lessons, just as winning does. I will come to all games and practices full of enthusiasm, ready to learn, to improve my skills, and to try my hardest. By registering to play for this team, I have made a commitment to attend practices and games and display good sportsmanship. I understand that I cannot expect to receive as much playing time as other players if I do not meet these commitments. I also recognize that every child needs playing time and do not expect to play every minute of every game.

I will show respect and good sportsmanship to my fellow players, opposing players, coaches, referees and spectators. I will remind my family not to be angry and critical towards players, coaches, referees and spectators and to show respect and good sportsmanship at all times. I will try my best not to sound angry or frustrated when I give advice to my teammates. I understand that referees, players, and coaches try to do their best, but that they make mistakes just like I do.

I will follow the decisions of coaches and referees without criticizing them. I will not yell at, argue, spit, touch, shove, strike, kick, or threaten any coach, player, referee or spectator before, during, or after any game or practice. I also will not slam a ball or container, strike or throw any object or take any other act of aggression if I am upset at a coach, player, referee or spectator. I will not try to deliberately hurt another player, or deliberately behave poorly, at any practice or game. I will not use foul language or make abusive remarks or gestures to players, coaches, referees, and spectators at games and practices.

I will not have in my possession any tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, knives, guns or other weapons, or be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs, during any game or practice. I will also remind members of my family not to use tobacco products or alcohol during any game or practice. I also pledge that I will not take any dietary supplements that could jeopardize my health.

I understand that I can be immediately removed from a practice or game, and expelled from my team for the remainder of the season, if I behave poorly or fail to follow any part of this code of conduct. I also understand that if I and my parent do not sign this document, I will not be allowed to play on the team.

Player's Name

Player's Signature

Parent / Legal Guardian Signature

Date

Washington Borough Recreation Parent Consent to use of Child's Images on the Washington Borough Website

From time to time, the Recreation Program records digital images of players participating in youth sports activities sponsored by the Borough to document the activities that are offered to Borough youth through the Recreation Program. The Borough desires to post these images on its website to promote the Recreation Program and its activities to the community.

It is the Borough's intent to protect the privacy rights of our young players and their families by (1) prohibiting the posting of any young player's image or identifying information on its website without the express written permission of the player's parent(s); and (2) publishing young players' photos on the website only as a means of promoting the activities of the Recreation Program.

In furtherance of the Borough's goal of protecting the privacy rights of our young players and their families ***no identifying information (name, age, etc.) will be included with any child's picture.***

Consent to use of child's Image on Washington Borough Web Site, Please check one box

- Yes, the undersigned parent or legal guardian of _____ (player's name), agrees and consents to the posting of digital images of the player on the Washington Borough website that were taken in connection with programs or activities conducted by the Borough Recreation Program.

The undersigned retains the right to refuse the posting of any particular image of the above named player, and to request the removal of any image at any time by contacting the Washington Borough Recreation Department, 100 Belvidere Avenue, Washington, NJ, 07882 (908) 689-3600 ex 136, RecSecretary@washingtonboro-nj.org.

- No, the undersigned parent or legal guardian of _____ (player's name), DOES NOT consent to the posting of digital images of the player on the Washington Borough website that were taken in connection with programs or activities conducted by the Borough Recreation Program.

Parent/Legal Guardian Name

Parent/Legal Guardian signature

Date